

1 1. A method comprising:
2 in response to operation of a power button,
3 transitioning a processor-based system from a lower power
4 consumption state to a higher power consumption state; and
5 in response to re-operation of said power button,
6 transitioning said processor-based system from said higher
7 power consumption state to said lower power consumption
8 state.

1 2. The method of claim 1 including transitioning
2 said processor-based system from the lower power
3 consumption state to a still lower power consumption state
4 in response to a lack of activity on said processor-based
5 system.

1 3. The method of claim 2 including transitioning
2 said system from said still lower power consumption state
3 back to said lower power consumption state if activity is
4 detected around said processor-based system.

1 4. The method of claim 3 including detecting motion
2 around said processor-based system.

1 5. The method of claim 2 including transitioning
2 said system from said still lower power consumption state

3 back to said lower power consumption state if light is
4 detected around said processor-based system.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said processor-
2 based system includes a television receiver, said method
3 including transitioning from said still lower power
4 consumption state to said lower power consumption state
5 whenever said television receiver is operating.

1 7. The method of claim 1 including preventing said
2 system from going to a power off state in response to
3 operation of a power button.

1 8. The method of claim 1 including receiving a power
2 command from a power button on a remote control unit.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said system
2 includes an operating system, said method including
3 providing a power management module in connection with the
4 operating system for said processor-based system to handle
5 power management events.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said power
2 management module responds to power management events by
3 passing control to a boot loader.

1 11. An article comprising a medium that stores
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to:
3 in response to operation of a power button,
4 transition said processor-based system from a lower power
5 consumption state to a higher power consumption state; and
6 in response to re-operation of said power button,
7 transition said processor-based system from said high power
8 consumption state to said lower power consumption state.

1 12. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from the lower power consumption state to a
4 still lower power consumption state in response to a lack
5 of activity on said system.

1 13. The article of claim 12 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state
4 back to said lower power consumption state if activity is
5 detected around said processor-based system.

1 14. The article of claim 13 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to detect
3 motion around said processor-based system.

1 15. The article of claim 12 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state
4 back to said lower power consumption state if light is
5 detected around said processor-based system.

1 16. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition from said still lower power consumption state to
4 said lower power consumption state in response to operation
5 of a television receiver.

1 17. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that prevent said system from going to a power
3 off state in response to operation of a power button.

1 18. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause said processor-based system to
3 receive a power on command from the power button on a
4 remote control unit.

1 19. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to
3 transition between said lower and higher power consumption
4 states using a software module at the operating system
5 kernel level.

1 20. The article of claim 19 further storing
2 instructions that cause said processor-based system to
3 respond to power management events by passing control to a
4 boot loader.

1 21. A system comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a storage coupled to said processor;
4 a power button for said system, said power button
5 operable to cause said system to transition from a lower
6 power consumption state to a higher power consumption state
7 or to transition from said higher power consumption state
8 to said lower power consumption state.

1 22. The system of claim 21 including a housing, said
2 processor and said storage mounted in said housing and said
3 power button being mounted on said housing, said housing
4 coupled to a sensor that detects activity surrounding said
5 housing.

1 23. The system of claim 22 wherein said sensor is a
2 light sensor.

1 24. The system of claim 23 wherein said system
2 further includes a television receiver coupled to said

3 processor, and said light sensor is adapted to detect light
4 from operation of said television receiver.

1 25. The system of claim 22 wherein said sensor is a
2 motion sensor that detects motion proximate to said
3 housing.

1 26. The system of claim 21 wherein operation of said
2 power button does not remove power from said system.

1 27. The system of claim 21 including a timer that
2 transitions said system to a still lower power consumption
3 state in response to system inactivity for a period of time.

1 28. The system of claim 27 wherein said system
2 automatically transitions from said still lower power
3 consumption state in response to the detection of activity
4 proximate to said processor.

1 29. The system of claim 21 wherein said system is a
2 set-top box.

1 30. The system of claim 21 including a remote control
2 unit coupled to said processor, said unit including a power
3 button that transitions said system between said higher and
4 lower power consumption states.

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